

CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 8 and 14 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of automatic software testing comprising:
 - storing status information of a software test running on a test system to a common information point, wherein said common information point is physically separate and communicatively coupled to a test master computer system for monitoring progress of said test system;
 - automatically reinstalling an operating system on said test system;
 - querying said common information point to determine said status information; and
 - resuming said software test after said reinstallation of said operating system.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said common information point is on a computer system independent from a computer system running said software test.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said reinstalling is performed under software control.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said querying is started by a start-up process, said start up process automatically initiated by said operating system.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said status information comprises an identification test portions completed.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said resuming restarts said software test at point subsequent to a last test portion completed.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said test system is running a different operating system subsequent to said reinstalling than said test system was running prior to said reinstalling.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of automatic software testing comprising:

installing test driver software on a plurality of test systems;

providing a mapping of a plurality of virtual test system names to real test system names to said test driver software; and

using a common information point and a test master computer system to gather and to monitor test results from said plurality of test systems, wherein said common information point is physically separate and communicatively coupled to said test master computer system.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8 further comprising identifying said common point of information to said plurality of test systems.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said test results are gathered from said common point of information.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said mapping resides on said common point of information.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said common point of information is a network file system mount point common to all test systems.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein said installing is responsive to a start up process, said start up process automatically initiated by said operating system.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer system for automatic software testing comprising:

a test master computer system;

a plurality of test computer systems communicatively coupled to said test master computer system;

a common information point communicatively coupled to said test master computer system and to said plurality of test computer systems, wherein said common information point is physically separate from said test master computer system;

said test master computer system for installing a test driver on each of said plurality of test computer systems;
at least one of said plurality of test computer systems for:
storing status information of a software test running on said at least one of said plurality of test computer systems to said common information point;
automatically reinstalling an operating system on said at least one of said plurality of test computer systems;
querying said common information point to determine said status information, wherein said test master computer system monitors said software test; and
resuming said software test after said automatically reinstalling of said operating system.

15. (Original) The computer system of Claim 14 wherein said test master computer system is distinct from said plurality of test computer systems.
16. (Original) The computer system of Claim 14 wherein said reinitializing is performed under software control.
17. (Original) The computer system of Claim 14 wherein said querying is started by a start up process, said start up process automatically initiated by said operating system.
18. (Original) The computer system of Claim 14 wherein said status information comprises an identification of test portions completed.
19. (Original) The computer system of Claim 18 wherein said resuming starts said software test at point subsequent to a last test portion completed.
20. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 14 wherein said at least one of said plurality of test computer systems is running a different operating system subsequent to said reinstalling than said at least one of said plurality of test computer systems was running prior to said reinstalling.